

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

15 DEC. 1961
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Goa: no action yet

A. Nehru maintains his position that Portuguese agreement to withdraw is the sole basis for a peaceful solution.

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B. Salazar in a pessimistic talk with Senator Dodd yesterday anticipated an Indian attack today and instructed his troops to "die defending Goa."

C. We have no information that fighting has broken out and Nehru may still anticipate some move from Lisbon providing him with a basis for compromise.

2. Congo

UN forces in Elizabethville began their offensive last night. Reports conflict on the progress of fighting but we are not optimistic over a quick UN victory. We have no information on how Adoula or Tshombé are reacting to the latest efforts to bring them together.

3. Subandrio says Indonesia continues ready for bi-lateral negotiations with the Dutch

He told Ambassador Jones that Sukarno's long-awaited pronouncement next Tuesday would be along the lines "I order the Indonesian people to be ready at any time to meet force with force" and would not order precipitate action against West New Guinea.

He went much farther than Sukarno has on self-determination, expressing willingness to hold a plebiscite after a period of years. While we have noted no abatement in Indonesian military preparations for eventual armed action, Jones reports a continuing calm atmosphere in Djakarta - "no excitement, no build-up, no attacks on the US or the West."

4. Repercussions of Soviet-Albanian break

A. Albania's Vice Premier and Foreign Trade Minister are scheduled to transit Italy this week enroute to Rangoon and almost certainly on to Peiping to ask urgent economic support. The Chinese will then have to choose between directly defying the USSR and losing face by abandoning Albania. While they have published the Moscow-Tirana exchange of notes, the Chinese have not so far taken a public stand on the question.

B. Indonesia Foreign Minister Subandrio told our Ambassador that Khrushchev's attack on Albania has "opened eyes" in Asia and Africa. If he could treat a Communist nation this way, Subandrio said, what could a non-Communist one expect?

5. Berlin

A. An East German Party official has stated that no West German laws will be acceptable for West Berlin under "Free City" status and declares the present Federal offices and employees in the city are "illegal."

B. Prospects are improving for establishment of an International Red Cross permit office in West Berlin to issue permits for West Berliners to visit the eastern sector of the city; the initial reaction all around is one of conditional approval.

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NOTES

- A. No major new developments in Caracas or Bogota have been reported.
- B. Soviet aircraft are searching northeast Siberia for remnants of Monday's unsuccessful space shot. They are hampered by bad weather and short daylight hours, and so far have had no luck.
[redacted] 50X1
- C. The Soviets have begun test-firing their 2,000-mile ballistic missile to a range of 2,500 nautical miles. A missile of this range would allow launcher deployment deeper inside the USSR and bring all the Eurasian land mass plus much of North Africa within range of MRBM sites in the USSR. [redacted] 50X1
- D. We believe the Chinese Communist military delegation to North Vietnam arrived in Hanoi ahead of schedule on Wednesday.
[redacted] The delegation is roughly equivalent in rank and responsibilities to the Taylor mission; its leader was concerned with Chinese military support for Ho Chi Minh during the Indochina war. 50X1
- E. Nehru stated to Ho Chi Minh's personal envoy his strong conviction that President Kennedy desired peace in Southeast Asia and that this purpose would best be served if Hanoi stopped encouraging the "guerrillas."
- F. The Swedes have told us that they, the Swiss and the Austrians will apply separately today for association with the Common Market.
- G. Boun Oum's talks yesterday with Souvanna and Souphannouvong at the rebel capitol resulted in tentative agreement for a "conclusive" Princes' meeting in Vientiane on 26 December.

- H. Balaguer has requested Consul Hill to tell the President in San Juan that there would be no obstacle to an agreement "if the opposition was not intransigent." Rodriguez and the opposition do appear to be inching closer to one another. Hill dismisses incidents of the last few days at our visa section as "informer-chasing" sport by youthful Dominican gangs and notes neither government nor opposition associates itself with these carrying-on's.
- I. Ambassador Gavin reports mushrooming Paris rumors of John Birch society financial aid to the extremist Secret Army Organization in Algeria.
- J. Philippine constitutional processes finally prevailed Wednesday evening when the Congress in special joint session officially proclaimed Macapagal President and Garcia formally acknowledged his victory.
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- L. Prospects for an Okinawan leftist victory in Sunday's Naha mayoralty election are improving. Their success would strengthen elements favoring immediate reversion to Japan, stimulate new Japanese overtures for participation in Okinawan affairs and promote agitation against US military bases.

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